



## AARC Schedules Fox Hunt

If you have ever participated in a Fox Hunt (hidden transmitter hunt), you know you will have fun. If you haven't, then come on out and see if you can show the rest of us how it's done. Or at least come and find out how it's done and see if you like it.

People show up with all kinds of home brewed gadgets, and some may show up with fancy commercially made gizmos like Doppler direction finders, etc.

The minimum equipment necessary is a receiver, preferably with some kind of signal strength indicator. If it doesn't have a signal strength indicator, you will have to have some way to attenuate (reduce the strength of) the signal to a point where it is noisy and judge its strength by the sound.

Some kind of attenuator is helpful even with a meter. When you get close to the fox, the signal will be very strong and you may have difficulty finding a weaker direction, but it can be done. People have successfully found the fox by removing the antenna from their radio and holding it close to their body and then rotating.

I have an attenuator made from a Radio Shack project box, a few BNC connectors and a few resistors. It works.

A directional antenna is also

helpful. You may see some rather innovative designs. Also, a teammate who can operate the vehicle while you operate the equipment, or maybe take a turn at each job, is very helpful. Don't try to do both at the same time. You might wind up in the hospital on a day when there is no meeting scheduled, or even in a tombstone orchard.

The fox hunt will take place on Sunday, February 16, 2003. Some details still need to be discussed at the meeting. The starting location and time haven't been set. The last fox hunt began at Butler Rodman Park sometime around 1:00 or 2:00 PM.

**If you want to participate, you will have to sign up at the meeting. If you can't attend the meeting, contact one of the officers or someone who is going to attend and have them enter your name.** The fox will be chosen from the list of people who sign up. If you are not on the sign up sheet, you won't be given the frequency and you won't be credited even if you should find the fox.

## N8MAA Becomes A Silent Key

As most of you probably know, Jim Miller, N8MAA passed away at Oakhill Manor in Louisville, OH on January 15, after an extended illness. He was buried in Union Cemetery in Louisville.

Jim was born in Catawissa, PA, May 17, 1925 to the late Alvin and Lulu (Rhodes) Miller. He was a World War II US Army veteran and a former prisoner of war.

Jim attended the AARC license

*(Continued on page 3)*

### Ye Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, February 5th, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Our meetings begin at 7:30 PM, and are an excellent opportunity for eyeball QSO's. Directions can be found on the K8LTG Repeater (145.370)  
See you there!

## Officers

### President

Bob Steele, K8RLS  
3755 South Union Ave.  
Alliance, OH 44601  
rsteele@alliancelink.com  
330-821-5011

### Vice-President

Larry Ashburn, KE8VE  
1080 W. Beech St.  
Alliance, OH 44601  
ke8ve@raex.com  
330-821-9808

### Secretary

Dave Glass, W8UKQ  
217 West Simpson St.  
Alliance, OH 44601  
w8ukq@juno.com  
330-823-4855

### Treasurer

Mary Ann Royer,  
KB8IVS  
6255 Sandalwood NE  
Canton, OH 44721  
kb8ivs@aol.com  
330-492-0703

### Trustees

John Myers, KD8MQ  
510 West Harrison Street  
Alliance, OH 44601  
kd8mq@qsl.net  
330-821-5513

James Lilley, N8XTJ  
67 E. Columbia St.  
Alliance, OH 44601

Joe Young, KC8TAC  
154 W. Grant St.  
Alliance, OH 44601

### Editor

Larry Ashburn, KE8VE  
(see above)

## Editorial

I can't think of much of any thing to rant and rave about this month, except the pinched nerve I got on Christmas eve which has been causing me grief and pain ever since. But you probably don't want to hear about that anyway.

I've heard a lot of people complaining about the "bad winter" we've been having. I for one am glad to see a normal Ohio winter for a change. I've been enjoying it, even shoveling snow.

I saw an article in World Radio that said the ARRL VEC examination fee is now \$12. Last time I paid one of those, it was \$5. Seems like a lot of inflation to me. I'm glad gasoline didn't go up that much!

I was greatly saddened by the loss of the Space Shuttle and its crew last Saturday. I haven't heard if any of the crew were licensed Amateurs, but I know for a while, just about all the Astronauts were, and I suspect that at least some of these were. I did a search on qrz.com on each of the astronaut's names and only found three of them, but two of the three, David Brown and Michael Anderson had many listings. There was only one Laurel Clark listed and she lives in Huston Texas. Her call is KC5ZSU. Good chance that's her.

The space program has had a very good safety record. Hopefully, it will be a very long time before something like this happens again.

de KE8VE

## Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the First Wednesday of every month, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Talk-in is on 145.37 @. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

## Nets

Thursday is our "net night," with the following nets on tap:

### Ten meters

CW @ 8PM on 28.400 MHz  
SSB @ 8:30PM on 28.400 MHz

### 2 meters

9 PM on 145.37 MHz

## Internet

If you'd like to check us out on the web, our E-mail address is:

**w8lky@qsl.net**

Our club home page is:

**Http://www.qsl.net/w8lky**

## Newsletter Information

The Zero Beat is a publication of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601

Unless otherwise noted, permission is freely granted to reprint portions of the Zero Beat, as long as credit is given to the author & source.

You can submit material to the Zero Beat either electronically, to ke8ve@raex.com, in person, or via snail mail. I can read most word processor formats, but prefer your files to be in straight text, or Microsoft Word format.

## January Minutes

### ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

January 8, 2003

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on January 8, 2003, at 7:30 P. M., with Robert Steele K8RLS, president, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 22 members present. The pledge of allegiance was given, and introductions were made.

The minutes of the last meeting were published in the newsletter. The report was approved upon motion by Jerry KG8RN, seconded by Jim K8LTG.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by Jim K8LTG, seconded by Gladys KB8GIA.

A visitor, now a new member, Dave Snyder N8DAV, was welcomed.

Ham of the Year, Sam KC8ETZ, was congratulated.

Old business: A proposed amendment to the by-laws was presented. It is signed by three members. The amendment was read. There is no discussion or voting on it until the next meeting. It proposes an increase in the amount of the petty cash fund.

The Christmas party was enjoy-

able. Thanks to Gladys KB8GIA for finding the entertainment, an accordion player. For next year, John KD8MQ will look for possible meeting places.

Fox Hunt: It is scheduled for February 16. The fox will be selected at the next meeting, February 5, and participants will sign up for the hunt.

2003 is the Bicentennial of Ohio. This will be discussed at the next meeting to plan a special event and a certificate. W8LKY will be used. The event could be during Carnation Week or the Mile Branch Fair.

Dave W8UKQ has contacted Dennis Moriarty K8AGB concerning a future program regarding interference. A meeting date will be scheduled which should be publicized to have a larger attendance. Another program suggestion is for ARRL video tapes.

New business: Jack W8WEN reported how excited he is to have made a contact on 160 meters, 1.834 MHz, with VK6HD in Australia recently. Congratulations, Jack.

Three members, Don K8OMO, Jack W8WEN, and Jim K8LTG, participated in Straight Key Night. John KD8MQ will have an article in the National Contest Journal, January-February, about his operation in the Pennsylvania QSO Party. Don K8OMO gave Net reports: 10 meters: 36 sessions, 338 check ins; Skywarn, 3 sessions, 35 check ins. There is a

report that Hollingsworth is retiring, and frequencies are being auctioned. The Marconi Anniversary is January 11-19. The station is K1CC. A brochure about Ham University programs for amateur radio courses was presented.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Jerry N8SH.

John KD8MQ is selling meters on eBay.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 P. M., upon motion by Jerry K8CAT, seconded by Dana N8DA.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary

### N8MAA

*(Continued from page 1)*

class in the fall of 1989 and was first licensed in early 1990 as KB8IYI. He soon upgraded to Technician (3/20/90) and became N8MAA. He has been a member of the club since attending classes.

He was a member of several other organizations including the American Legion and the NRA. Jim will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

1. Of course everyone recognizes K8LTG's New QTH on Bandy Road.

## K8OMO Finds A Sweet Spot

We've all heard Don on the repeater from time to time, not quite full quieting into the machine. Well, one day he decided to find a location where he wouldn't have any noise on his signal. While he was there, he took a few pictures for us.

Don wrote the captions for the pictures. Thanks Don.



2. Next is a real tight shot of our Sebring users and in the distance our friends in Berlin Center.



3. You will all recognize K8OMO's former QTH but still the home of MR. CAT.



4. Last but not least K8OMO, W8WEN, K8LW and KE8VE'S QTH all clustered together as you can tell by the amount of RADIATION coming from that direction.



5. Finally the cause of all this commotion, the K8LTG repeater located on the top of Alliance city Hospital in all its Glory.



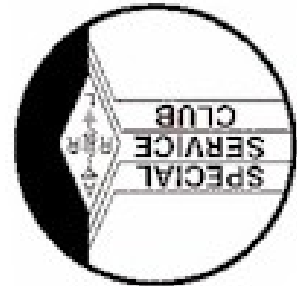


# February 2003

*Birthday Greetings to: KA8LKQ, AB8KV, N8FCL, W8WEN*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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*Everything about life can be summed up in three words; it goes on. Robert Frost*



Alliance Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 3344  
Alliance, OH 44601

## Dave, W8UKQ Reports

Denny Moriarty, K8AGB is tentatively scheduled to give a talk at our March 5th meeting on Power Line Interference.

The next quarterly meeting of QCWA, Chapter 21, Canton, Ohio, will be February 15th, at noon, at the Old Country Buffet on Whipple Avenue.

And also on the same subject:

QCWA, Chapter 21, Newsletter and Meeting Notice for February 15, at NOON, at the OLD COUNTRY BUFFET is now ready to view at:

<http://www.cmh.net/qcwa>  
(Note: New Address)

Please CLICK REPLY NOW !!

Bring your ideas for our 40th anniversary meeting.

If you are unable to access the newsletter, please call me at 330-823-4855 or e-mail to have a paper copy sent.

We are looking forward to seeing you there.

73

Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary